SPEAK, B'GALI.
AS THE ROYAL PHYSICIAN, I REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT KING T'CHALLA'S CONDITION IS TENUOUS AT BEST.
HE MIGHT NOT SURVIVE THE NIGHT.
THANK YOU, DOCTOR.
I WILL BE AT THE HOSPITAL IF YOU NEED ME.
WE HAVE A GRAVE RESPONSIBILITY HERE--TO T'CHALLA AND WAKANDA.

THE SITUATION COULD NOT BE MORE DIRE.
RUMORS OF T'CHALLA'S CONDITION SPREAD LIKE WILDFIRE.
AND WHOEVER ATTACKED HIM COULD BE PLANNING AN INVASION AS WE SPEAK.
LET THEM COME. JUST BECAUSE T'CHALLA'S DOWN DOESN'T MEAN WAKANDA IS DEFENSELESS.
THE BLACK PANTHER IS MORE THAN JUST THE HEAD OF OUR MILITARY, SHURI. HE IS THE FOCAL POINT OF THE SPIRITUAL GROUNDING THAT HAS ALLOWED US TO THRIVE AS A PEOPLE FOR CENTURIES.
WITHOUT A BLACK PANTHER...
...WAKANDA CANNOT SURVIVE.
WE STILL HAVE ONE.
T'CHALLA'S FATE IS IN THE HANDS OF THE PANTHER GOD NOW. WAKANDA'S FATE IS IN OURS.
OR MORE SPECIFICALLY, ORORO, YOURS.
THE QUEEN MOTHER IS RIGHT. WAKANDA PROTOCOL DICTATES THAT LEADERSHIP FALLS INTO THE HANDS OF THE QUEEN UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE KING CAN RETURN. BUT SINCE HE IS INCAPACITATED, A NEW BLACK PANTHER MUST BE CHOSEN.

W'KABI, WHY DON'T WE HAVE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WHO T'CHALLA WAS MEETING WITH?
SO BE IT.
HE DIDN'T TELL YOU, HE DIDN'T TELL US AND HE DEACTIVATED ALL OF THE TRACKING DEVICES ON THE SHIP.
THE TECHS ARE PORING OVER THE WRECKAGE. FUEL USAGE MIGHT GIVE US A CLUE. WE'RE ALSO CHECKING SATELLITE FOOTAGE FOR ANY SIGN OF WHERE HE MIGHT'VE GONE.
GOOD. REPORT TO ME AT ONCE ON YOUR PROGRESS.
IN THE MEANTIME, W'KABI, FORTIFY WAKANDA'S BORDER DEFENSES IMMEDIATELY AND ALERT OUR SPIES TO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR ANY INDICATION OF AN ATTACK--NO MATTER HOW SMALL. I WANT ALL OF OUR FIELD AGENTS FROM THE PENTAGON TO PAKISTAN LOOKING FOR WHO MIGHT BE BEHIND THIS.
AT ONCE, MY QUEEN!

S'YAN--THE QUEEN MOTHER IS RIGHT. RUMORS OF T'CHALLA'S DEATH ARE SPREADING. WE NEED TO REASSURE THE WAKANDAN PEOPLE THAT THEIR KING IS ALIVE. THE FULL DETAILS OF MY HUSBAND'S STATE ARE NOT TO LEAVE THIS ROOM.
PUBLIC UNREST WILL ONLY AID OUR ENEMIES' PLAN. WE MUST MAINTAIN ORDER TO CONCENTRATE ON OUR MOST IMPORTANT TASK!
FINDING THE NEXT BLACK PANTHER.
MY QUEEN...I HAD ASSUMED THAT--
T'CHALLA'S CONDITION MAKES ME QUEEN OF WAKANDA, NOT THE NEXT BLACK PANTHER CANDIDATE BY DEFAULT. I WILL DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO ASSURE THAT WAKANDA IS PROTECTED, BUT MY PLACE IS BY MY HUSBAND'S SIDE.
TO FIND THE NEW BLACK PANTHER, WE NEED NOT LEAVE THIS ROOM. IT IS UP TO THE PANTHER GOD TO MAKE THE FINAL CHOICE, BUT IT IS MY BELIEF THAT SHE STANDS AMONG US.
SOMEONE WHO'S BEEN TRAINING HER WHOLE LIFE FOR THIS MOMENT.

MY QUEEN...PERHAPS YOU SHOULD TAKE SOME TIME TO CONSIDER ALL THE FACTORS...?
YOUR COUNSEL IS NOTED. THE CANDIDATE IS NAMED.
SHURI, REPORT TO ZURI AT ONCE. YOU WILL IMMEDIATELY PREPARE TO MEET THE PANTHER GOD AND BE JUDGED BY HIM.
AT ONCE, MY QUEEN.
THANK YOU.
DO NOT THANK ME, SISTER.
AND MORE IMPORTANT, DO NOT FAIL.
COME, SHURI. ZURI AWAITS...

"...THE JOURNEY OF YOUR LIFE IS ABOUT TO BEGIN."
THREE HOURS AGO...
YOUR LIFE IS OVER, T'CHALLA.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW MUCH IT PLEASES ME THAT I WILL BE THE ONE TO PERSONALLY END IT.
THAT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN, DOOM, BECAUSE FOR ALL YOUR POSTURING, YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN WEAK...
...AND NOW THAT THE DORA MILAJE HAVE HAD TIME TO SIZE UP THE SITUATION...
...YOU'RE DEAD.
YOU JUST DON'T KNOW IT YET.

KA'ISH
SHLIKT
AUTOPILOT.
ONLINE.
TARGET HOSTILES AT 12 O'CLOCK.
WHIIIIIIIIIIIR
TARGETS LOCKED.
FIRE.
BRATATATATATATATATAT

FWOOMP
NO, BELOVED! DO NOT STOP!
"GETTING YOU TO SAFETY IS THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS."
WWWUU
ARGH!

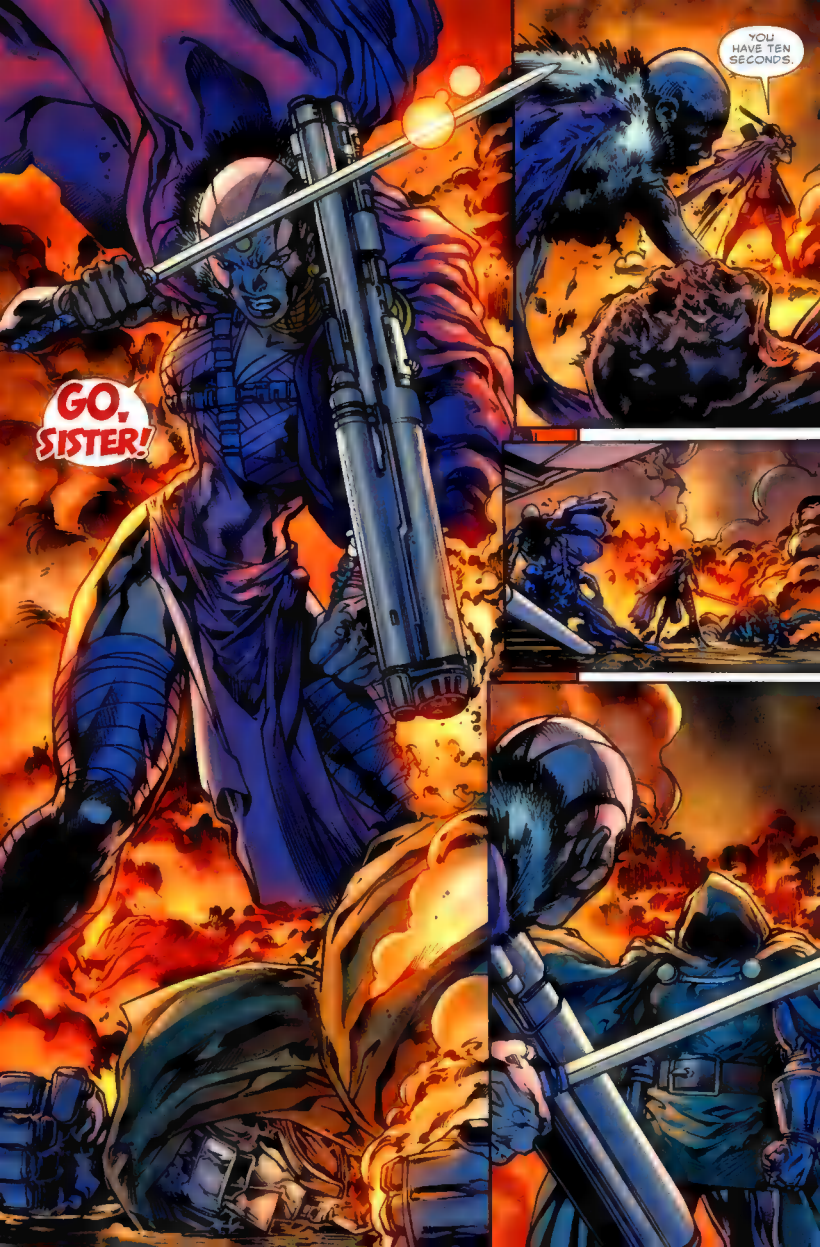
NO! WE MUST STAY AND FIGHT!
I WILL NOT GAMBLE WITH YOUR LIFE, BELOVED. NOW MOVE! OR BE CARRIED TO--
NO.

now...
MY QUEEN--SHE IS NOT READY.
PLEASE RECONSI--
NOT READY?
SHURI IS WAKANDAN ROYALTY, BORN AND BRED.
SHE IS THE CHILD OF T'CHAKA, THE FORMER KING OF WAKANDA AND ONE OF THE GREATEST TO EVER DON THE HABIT OF THE BLACK PANTHER.
SHE HAS ENJOYED THE SAME UPBRINGING, EDUCATION AND TRAINING AS T'CHALLA. HAD HE NOT CLAIMED THE MANTLE FIRST, WE WOULD DOUBTLESSLY BE ADDRESSING HER AS BLACK PANTHER TODAY.
PERHAPS, BUT I FEAR SHURI IS NOT READY FOR THE CHALLENGES AHEAD.
SHURI HAS BEEN TRAINED SINCE BIRTH TO BE THE PANTHER. SHE IS READY NOW.
DO NOT CRIPPLE YOUR DAUGHTER WITH YOUR DOUBTS.

THREE HOURS AGO...
THWOOMP
BRATATATATATATAT
KA-BOOM!
KLANK!

THE GUNS HAVE STOPPED FIRING...
AUTOPILOT!
AUTOPILOT DISABLED.
BZZZT! BZT!
SISTER, IT'S A TRAP!
HOW DID--
KNOW THIS, T'CHALLA. UPON YOUR DEATH I WILL RAZE YOUR BELOVED WAKANDA AND WIPE YOUR LEGACY FROM THE MINDS OF ITS PEOPLE.
MY ONLY REGRET IS THAT YOU WON'T BE AROUND TO WATCH IT HAPPEN.
ANOTHER DECOY?
NO.

IT'S HIM.
FZAAAT
IT'S A PITY THAT YOU HAD TO BE SO SHORT-SIGHTED. I ALWAYS CONSIDERED YOU A--
KROOM!
UNGH!


GO, SISTER!
YOU HAVE TEN SECONDS.

UNH!
GK!
YOUR DEATH WILL NOT BE A QUICK ONE.
KLIK
GO TO HELL.

A-AUTOPILOT...
RE-ENGAGED.
HOME...
COURSE CONFIRMED.
WE LOST HER.
MY SWORD SISTER IS GONE.
DON'T LEAVE ME, BELOVED.
PLEASE...

HE NEEDS YOU NOW, MORE THAN EVER.
BUT AM I DOING ENOUGH?
YOU'RE DOING EVERYTHING PHYSICALLY POSSIBLE. IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT YOU WORRY AND PRESSURE YOURSELF.
T'CHALLA ALWAYS PULLS THROUGH. HE'S THE STRONGEST HUMAN BEING I'VE EVER KNOWN. I JUST...I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM SO WEAK BEFORE.
SOMETHING'S HAPPENING. THIS TIME...I'M AFRAID. I'M AFRAID FOR ALL OF US.
DON'T LEAVE ME ALONE.

I WOULD DO ANYTHING TO SAVE HIM.
DO YOU MEAN THAT?
WITH ALL MY HEART.
I DO NOT SPEAK OF THIS LIGHTLY, CHILD, BUT WE HAVE ONE LAST HOPE OF BRINGING HIM BACK FROM THE BRINK. IT IS SO DANGEROUS A ROAD THAT I DARED NOT SPEAK OF IT IN FRONT OF THE OTHERS.
I DON'T CARE IF I HAVE TO GO INTO HELL ITSELF. TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW.

MEANWHILE, ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENT...
YOU HAVE ALL FELT IT, BROTHERS.
THE PANTHER TOTEM, FROM WHICH WAKANDA DRAWS ITS STRENGTH, LIES BEFORE US LIKE A WOUNDED GAZELLE.
WE MUST SEIZE THIS OPPORTUNITY...
...AND UNCAGE THE LION!
NEXT ISSUE: MORLUN

A GREEN GIANT SCAN

DCP

LIKE IT? BUY IT!